Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ISO-00 L-03 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

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APPROVED BY EB/TCA/MA:RKBANK
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AF/W:WESVENDSEN
EA/PRCM:OARMSTRONG
EA/VLC:SHARNER
L/ARA:MKOZAK (SUBS.)
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MONROVIA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 108540

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: ETRN, LI, CH

SUBJECT: LIBERIAN REGISTRATION OF PRC-OWNED VESSELS

REF: MONROVIA 2767

1. WITHOUT INDICATING APPROVAL OR DISAPPROVAL OF LIBERIA'S CONTEMPLATED ACTION OF REGISTERING PRC-OWNED VESSELS, DEPT. SUGGESTS THAT EMBASSY BRING TO THE ATTENTION OF LIBERIAN OFFICIALS THAT THE PRC'S SOMALI-REGISTERED VESSELS HAVE PREVIOUSLY CALLED ON CUBA AND POSSIBLY NORTH VIETNAM AND CAN BE EXPECTED TO DO SO IN THE FUTURE. CONSEQUENTLY, THEY SHOULD BE AWARE THAT US LAW CURRENTLY PROVIDES FOR CONFIDENTIAL

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CERTAIN SANCTIONS AGAINST COUNTRIES WHOSE REGISTERED

VESSELS CALL AT CUBA AND NORTH VIETNAM. THESE LAWS ALSO CONTAIN WAIVER PROVISIONS. FUTURE ACTIONS OF CUBA AND NORTH VIETNAM WILL HAVE AN INFLUENCE ON U.S. POLICY TOWARD THESE TWO COUNTRIES, INCLUDING U.S. POLICY TOWARD THE GRANTING OR RESCINDING OF WAIVERS TO THE SANCTIONS OUTLINED BELOW:

2. SECTION 103(D)(3) OF THE AGRICULTURAL TRADE DEVELOPMENT AND ASSISTANCE ACT OF L954, AS AMENDED, PROHIBITS TITLE I (PL 480) SALES OF AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES TO ANY COUNTRY WHICH SELLS OR FURNISHES OR PERMITS ITS SHIPS TO CARRY ANY EQUIPMENT, MATERIALS OR COMMODITIES TO OR FROM CUBA OR NORTH VIETNAM. HOWEVER, THE SAME SECTION PROVIDES FOR A

WAIVER IF "HE (THE PRESIDENT) DETERMINES THAT SUCH A WAIVER IS WITHIN THE NATIONAL INTEREST AND REPORTS SUCH DETERMINATION TO THE CONGRESS WITHIN 10 DAYS OF THE DATE OF SUCH DETERMINATION." NOTE: AID FY77 CONGRESSIONAL PRESENTATION CONTAINS 1.1 MILLION PL-480 (TITLE I) ALLOCATION FOR LIBERIA.

- 3. SECTION 620(A)(3) OF THE FOREIGN ASSISTANCE ACT OF 1961, AS AMENDED, PROHIBITS FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE UNDER THE ACT TO ANY COUNTRY WHICH FAILS TO TAKE APPROPRIATE STEPS TO PREVENT ITS SHIPS UNDER ITS REGISTRY FROM TRANSPORTING ANY EQUIPMENT, MATERIALS, OR COMMODITIES TO OR FROM CUBA. HOWEVER, THE SECRETARY OF STATE, PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY DELEGATED TO HIM BY THE PRESIDENT, HAS DETERMINED IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 664 OF THE SAME ACT THAT THE WAIVER OF PROVISIONS OF SECTION 620(A)(3) OF THE ACT WITH RESPECT TO THE FURNISHING OF ASSISTANCE TO ANY COUNTRY THAT MAY ALLOW SHIPS AND AIRCRAFT UNDER ITS REGISTRY FROM TRANSPORTING GOODS TO OR FROM CUBA IS IN THE NATIONAL INTEREST, AND ACCORDINGLY HE HAS WAIVED THE PROVISIONS OF THAT SECTION.
- 4. IN EVENT ANY SUBSEQUENT LEGISLATION AFFECTS FOREGOING, WILL ADVISE. SISCO

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TAGS: ETRN, LI, CH To: MONROVIA

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